

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The invention provides a substrate surface imaging method and apparatus that compensates for non-linear movement of the substrate surface during an imaging sequence. In one aspect of the invention, the imaging method and apparatus compensate for the non-linear substrate surface movement by adjusting the image receiver trigger points to correspond to image positions on the substrate surface. In another aspect, the invention provides synchronous imaging where the distance between each image position is determined by counting the number of stepper motor steps between image positions. In still another aspect, the invention provides for asynchronous substrate imaging by determining an image trigger time between each image position and using the image trigger time to trigger the receiver at the appropriate time to accurately image the substrate surface.

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